

## Homesteading in New Mexico

Until May 1903, the word "Homestead" had no particular meaning for me, but when I was informed that we were to take up a claim in New Mexico, all at once the word jumped into prominence in my mind. Of course I had not the slightest conception of just what "homesteading" meant; the absolute newness of everything. It meant truly getting "back to nature." The land was here but it was just as it had come from the hands of the Creator.

Our nearest railroad point was Texico, then a town of less than 100 inhabitants and not more than a dozen buildings, all told.

Within six months from the date of filing the law required us to "establish a home" on our claim, accordingly in November we gathered together enough of our home equipments to enable us to do extremely "light" housekeeping in a small tent, and hid ourselves to Texico. There we met the usual land sharks, always ready in a new country to tackle every new comer. As soon as they learned we were already located they literally faded away, to lie in wait for the next unwary traveler. After stopping over night at an extremely primitive hotel, during which time we were laying in a supply of provisions, hunting a teamster etc., the next morning early we left for our new home, 16 miles southwest, over an open prairie guiltless of any road, except for the numerous cattle-trails all converging toward one common point, namely the Old Black Tower Mill, a public watering place for the thousands of range cattle then roaming these prairies. Heavily loaded, our progress was necessarily slow, the days were short and it was near sundown when we reached a place two miles from our destination. Our driver told us we were to stop there for supper for the night. Not having made any plans for a stop, and not knowing the people, we naturally demurred, on the score of making trouble, not being expected etc. To all of which our man simply said: "That's all right." He accordingly drew up at a barn, in which a family was living while a house was being built. Hearing our approach a man and a woman came out and with most insistent hospitality claimed us as guests for the night. We were royally made welcome and most hospitably entertained. One who has experienced it, can never forget the wholesouled hospitality of the people in a new country. No questions are asked as to family, financial standing or position in society, you are taken at your face value and given the best they have. This is aside from the subject but I feel I owe this slight tribute to those kind neighbors. Next morning we resumed our journey, reached the little piece of land Uncle Sam was giving us, found one corner, pitched our tent and were soon eating our first dinner on our own land.

Privations and hardships of many kinds were our portion for several years. Considerable ready money is necessary in order to live even in comparative comfort on a new claim. Getting water to the surface is expensive, lumber and coal is high and the land produces sparingly at first.

After five years spent in try-

ing to overcome some of the difficulties, we received a deed to our land, and now have a fairly comfortable home.

Homesteaders now have much less time in which "to live out" a claim. Three years residence entitles them to a deed. Of course there is the privilege of commuting at the end of fourteen months, but that means cash, which is usually scarce here.

We had many pleasures along with our privations and have many pleasant recollections connected with our homesteading. On the whole, Homesteading in New Mexico can be called a good thing, but don't undertake it with an empty pocket book. Our president asked for something on Silos: My personal knowledge is not extensive, but I do know they are the great necessity for the farmer in this country. They save hundreds of dollars worth of feed that would otherwise be scattered and wasted; they put more flesh on stock than twice as much dry fodder; they are far more sanitary than the ordinary way of feeding stock. A silo is a sure sign of prosperity on a farm. As to the kind of a silo, I am all in favor of concrete, preferably underground. It is much cheaper, practically good for a lifetime and easier of access. I can't think a wood silo good for many years, on account of the high wind in the spring months.

Contributed.

### Public Sale

A variety sale of House Hold goods etc. will be sold on public square, Saturday, Feb. 7th at 1:30 p. m. Also Saturday, Feb. 14th, Farmers' Day, there will be another sale of farming implements.

If you want to sell or buy anything you should attend these Saturday Sales.

Perkins and Forbes,  
Auctioneers.

## New Spring Goods..

We are showing a complete line of New Spring Dress Goods, White Goods and Gingham, in Voiles, Ratines, Poplins, Silk Stripe Voiles, Flaxons, India Linons, Long Cloths, Dimities, etc., at prices that will interest you.

36 inch Messaline Silk in all the popular shades, at \$1.25  
33 inch Silk Waistings, neat, new patterns at \$1.25

### 25 per cent Off on Suits

25 per cent off on Boys' and Men's Suits and Overcoats. We only have a few overcoats left but we have a complete range of sizes and patterns in Men's and Boy's Suits.

### Guaranteed Hose

We have the Holeproof Hose for Men and Women, Buster Brown Hose for Ladies and Children at 25c, 35c and 50c

Fifty pieces of Gingham in the nice, new spring patterns. This Gingham is a good value for 12 1-2c the yard. We have put 50 pieces out to sell at, yd. 10c

### Muslin Underwear

Our new Spring Muslin Underwear is on display now. We have all prices from the cheapest to the best.

Corset Covers 25c up to \$1.25  
Princess Slips \$1.00 up to 2 50  
Drawers 35c up to 1.50  
Gowns 50c up to 2 50

89c Shirts 89c  
One lot, of Men's Shirts, values \$1.00, \$1.25 and \$1.50, odds and ends of our Silver and Ide Shirts, out on a counter, choice 89c

\$1.50 Men's Hats \$1.50  
One lot Men's \$2.30 and \$3.00 Hats all out together, your choice \$1.50

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THE BIG STORE

## Luikart to Market

W. I. Luikart of the big department store of Luikart and Company will leave the last of the week for eastern markets to replenish his stock of spring and summer goods. Mr. Luikart makes his marketing trip each year about this time and the big boxes loaded to the guards with the markets latest and best creations usually immediately follow him to the store. Sometimes they precede his return, indicating to the suspicious that he is taking in the sights of the city for a few days after making his purchases.

The most attractive prices on high-grade photographs now at Robinson Studio.

Hugh Coffey returned from an extended visit in Oklahoma.

Mrs. J. D. Lyons, of Amarillo, has been visiting in the city for the past week.

Mrs. D. J. Barkhardt, who resides in west Clovis and who has been sick for three weeks is reported very low.

Miss Ethel Forbes has finished her teaching term in district No. 42, northwest of Clovis and has accepted the position of teacher in the Unity School district, south of Texico.

For Sale—Lot 6, block 62, Clovis. Make me an offer.—C. H. McDonald, Roaring Springs, Texas. 3tp

## Woodmen Circle

The Woodmen Circle entertained at a social party, Thursday, in the Owen's building.

The evening was spent in playing parlor games. During the entire evening members of the Order were treated to music by local musicians.

Thirty five were present. Refreshments of cake and coffee were served

## Epworth League Party

Members of the Epworth League and their friends gave a social in the parlors of the Methodist church Friday night.

A short program was first rendered, which consisted as follows:

Quartette—Messrs Swarts, Marston, Cameron and Childers.  
Reading—Miss Evelyn Hamilton  
Quartette—Messrs Swarts, Marston, Cameron and Childers.  
Reading—Miss Ella Curren.  
Silo—Rev. Marston.

After the program the crowd repaired to the annex, where parlor games were played.

Delicious refreshments of sandwiches, olives, pickles, cake and chocolate were served. All report a fine time.

## Dr. Wolcott of Amarillo to be in Farwell

Dr. Wolcott, the well known eye, ear, nose and throat specialist of Amarillo, will be in Farwell, Texas, at the office of Dr. H. P. Oliver on the 9th, 10th and 11th of February, which days are Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Dr. Wolcott pays particular attention to the treatment of CATARRH also the proper FITTING OF GLASSES.

Ears examined and Hearing tested. Children must be accompanied by some responsible person. Remember the dates, 9th, 10th and 11th. Three days only.

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That little girl of yours —she'll soon be having her hair "done up," and too, she will be outgrowing her childish ways—and you haven't had her picture taken since she was in long dresses.

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